

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A mobile control apparatus, comprising:

5 a position circuit for receiving ranging signals over a first wireless link from a positioning system and for providing a position of said mobile position apparatus;

10 a communication interface for maintaining a wireless link for communicating with a server on a wide area network;'

15 a peripheral interface to a peripheral device, said interface provided to transfer control information between said peripheral device and said mobile control apparatus;

20 a controller for executing a program that (1) control operations of said position circuit, said communication interface, and said peripheral interface; and (2) transfers said position and said control information to said server; and

20 a memory for storing said program.

2. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said communication interface comprises a modem capable of operating in a cellular telephone system.

25 3. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said position circuit comprises a down-converter for a global position system (GPS).

4. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said position circuit determines said position based on triangulation of ranging signals.

30 5. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said peripheral interface comprises an industry standard bus interface.

6. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein said memory comprises a non-volatile portion and a volatile portion.

7. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 1, wherein  
5 said position circuit comprises a radio frequency front-end circuit and a signal processing circuit.

8. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 7, wherein  
said radio frequency front-end circuit and said signal  
processing circuit are provided as application-specific  
10 integrated circuits.

9. A mobile control apparatus as in Claim 8, wherein  
said controller comprises a general-purpose microprocessor.